Statement

Details of projects sanctioned for promotion of Pilgrim Tourism in Rajasthan

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Mounting of Sound and Light Show at Amber Fort, Jaipur	129.26	116.33
2.	Development of Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar at Jaipur under Destination Development Scheme	464.32	371.45
3.	Integrated Development of Mewar-Vagad Circuit comprising of places in Udaipur-Rajsmand-Chittorgarh-Banswara-Doongerpur Districts as Tourist Circuit	580.00	464.00
4.	Development of Brij Bhoomi religious Tourist Circuit comprising of Mathura, Vrindavan, Barsana, Jheel, Kalia Devi, Poonchari, Neelkanth, Bharthrihari in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	477.07	381.65
5.	Integrated Development of Pushkar (District Ajmer as a Tourist Destination	434.04	347.23
6.	Conservation, Restoration and Preservation of Gagron Fort, Jhalawar District in Rajasthan under Destination Development	281.71	225.36**
7.	International Hot Air Ballooning as an Event in Rajasthan	15.00	12.00
	TOTAL	2381.40	1918.02

**Funds are being released.

Hike in entry fee for monuments by ASI

1594. SHRI S.M. LALIAN BASHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is going to hike the entry fee for all monuments in the country;

(b) whether ASI has made any distinctions between highly prized monuments in cities and in distant areas, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ASI propose to increase the number of categories so as to bring about a uniform national system of fees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (c) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) No distinction is made between monuments in cities and distant areas.

(d) Question does not arise.

Promotion of Health Tourism

1595. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a spurt in the arrival of foreign tourists in India during the current year;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the arrival of tourist traffic in 2005-06 as compared to 2004-05 and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) what further steps are proposed to be taken by Government to improve the tourism sector;

(d) whether health tourism had caught up in a big way particularly in Maharashtra, Delhi. Karnataka and Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated foreign tourist arrivals to India and also foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 2005-06 (April 2005 to January 2006) with corresponding figures for the year 2004-05 has been as follows:—

Year	Estimated Foreign Tourist Arrivals (In Million)	Estimated Foreign Exchange Earnings (In US$ Million)
2005-06 (April '05 to January '06')	3.22 (11.7%)	4789 (20.1%)
2004-05 (April' 04 to January' 05)	2.88	3987

Figures in brackets indicate% change on the same period of last year.